

of mind and seems to agree not at all with the view of the layman who thinks the JOURNAL good enough to appropriate for his own.

In several previous reports the Editor has called attention to the fact that the JOURNAL is just exactly what you gentlemen, and the other members of the Society, make it. If your papers are poor in quality, by just that much does the tone of the JOURNAL fall; if they are good papers, showing good, thorough and careful work, by that much has the scientific tone and quality of the JOURNAL been improved. No one man can write scientific editorials or reviews of medical progress on all medical subjects. But there are a number of members of this Society who are quite able to write such articles, each on his own subject, from time to time, and their inclusion in the JOURNAL would be a distinct advantage. Within the last few months, largely through the most kindly assistance of Dr. Lartigau, who took charge of the JOURNAL during my illness and enforced absence from the office, a number of such contributors have been secured. But there should be more of them; there should be more of our members who are willing to give of their time and their ability for the good of the Society and the improvement of its JOURNAL.

But while admitting as freely as he has done for the last few years that there is room for improvement in the direction of more up-to-date scientific matter in the shape of reviews and editorials in the JOURNAL, the Editor most emphatically opposes the idea expressed by the captious critic from San Francisco. The JOURNAL is the property of every member of the Society. Every member, within reasonable limitations, has a right to believe that his contributions to medical literature should find their way to publicity in the pages of his JOURNAL. The Publication Committee, in 1903, took this position and decided that unless a paper submitted by a member was impossibly bad, or unless there was some other good reason to forbid it, the paper should appear in the JOURNAL if there was room for it; and that a paper read before a county medical society and sent to the JOURNAL by that society with a request for publication, must be published or the matter referred to the Council. The Editor is still in agreement with that view of the Publication Committee and he has seen, during these seven years, a number of instances in which non-productive members have become writers of constantly improving articles, solely, as he believes, through the encouragement given them by the initial publication.

Furthermore, the Editor is convinced that a large majority of our members and readers are physicians practicing busily among sick people who want to be relieved and as soon as possible, rather than pure scientific investigators or abstruse diagnosticians. It is quite as necessary to get hints upon how best to treat one's patients as it is to learn the very latest scientific advance of a purely speculative character that may have occurred in some foreign land. The Editor believes that the JOURNAL is for the many and not for the few in either extreme, and he has steadfastly adhered to that policy from the beginning. If the Society wishes that policy changed, it

must say so in no uncertain tones. In this connection reference to the remarks of the Secretary in 1903 and 1904, Dr. George H. Evans, in his annual reports would seem to be not untimely. He called attention to the great advances made in organization and stated that the part played by the JOURNAL in that work could not be overestimated. I believe that this was true simply because it brought men together; it placed San Diego and Eureka side by side.

I believe that, were the STATE JOURNAL to be made a duplicate in excellence and editorial policy, of the *Journal of the A. M. A.*, the value of the STATE JOURNAL would then and there cease, because it would no longer have the intimate personal interest that it now has to a large number of our members. There is a happy medium and that is what we should continue to strive for; not to make it either intensely scientific or, like the village weekly, purely gossip.

Some papers, reports of meetings, etc., are not published. That is generally because they are so poorly written or put together that they are useless, or because views expressed by authors are contrary to known facts. In many instances the "paper" sent in is merely a collection of notes of cases about which the writer has talked at some meeting, and consequently is not in condition for publication. The Editor has fought the Devil on the one side and has tried to keep from falling into the deep sea on the other, knowing full well that one can never please everybody and that sometimes writers whose articles do not appear seem to resent the fact as though it were a personal insult offered them by the Editor. But nevertheless he has tried to keep close to the policy originally outlined by the Publication Committee, though how successfully he has done so it is hard to say; the task is by no means a simple and an easy one.

Respectfully submitted,

PHILIP MILLS JONES, Editor.

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES AT THE FORTIETH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, SACRAMENTO, APRIL 19 AND 20, 1910.

First session, April 19th. The House was called to order by the President, Dr. Parkinson, at 8:30 P. M. The roll call showed 56 delegates present, and the Chair announced a quorum present and the House ready for business.

Reference Committee on New Business. The President stated that it had always been customary to appoint such a committee by resolution, and therefore, if there was no objection, he would not wait for the motion but would proceed to appoint the committee. There being no objection, the following were appointed: H. Bert. Ellis, Stanley Stillman and W. J. G. Dawson.

Dr. Wm. Simpson was called to the Chair and the President thereupon read his address to the House of Delegates, which was referred to the Reference Committee.

The President then resumed the Chair. The Secretary read his report, which was referred to the Reference Committee.

The Chairman of the Council, C. G. Kenyon, then presented the report of the Council; it was referred to the same committee.

The Medical Defense Committee of the Council then presented its report through the Chairman of the Committee, A. B. Grosse; it was referred to the same committee.

The Editor presented his report and it was referred to the same committee.

New Business. The Los Angeles delegation presented an amendment to the by-laws, Article VI, Section 5, as follows:

Amend Article VI, Section 5, by adding at the end of the section the following: "Each component County Medical Society shall elect from its members a corresponding editor to the editorial staff of the California State Journal of Medicine. The duties of such corresponding editors shall be to contribute to the Journal original articles, editorials and news items of scientific or professional value or interest to the Society or to its members. All matter so contributed shall be subject to the usual supervision of the Publication Committee as provided for in these By-Laws."

The following amendment to Article VI, Section 2, was introduced by H. Bert. Ellis:

"The Committee on Scientific Work shall consist of four members, of which the Secretary shall be, ex officio, one, and the other three shall be elected, one each year, to serve for three years; provided, that this year three shall be elected and these three shall determine by lot their respective periods of office, one, two and three years." The balance of the section, beginning with the words "shall determine," to remain as at present.

These two amendments, under the By-Laws, had to lie upon the table until the next session. There being no objection, the Reference Committee was requested to consider them and report at the Wednesday night session.

The following resolution was introduced by A. S. Lobingier, and, there being no objection, was referred to the Reference Committee:

Whereas, The laws governing expert medical testimony in the commonwealth of California are deemed unsatisfactory by both the bar and the medical profession of this State, and

Whereas, A committee on reform in the regulations governing the appointment of the medical expert has been appointed by the Council of the Los Angeles County Medical Association to confer with the committee on new legislation of the Los Angeles Bar Association, looking to effecting such reform in the law governing expert testimony; be it

Resolved, By the House of Delegates of the Medical Society of the State of California, that it

hereby gives its cordial endorsement to the several committees which have been officially delegated to this reform by the several Bar and Medical Associations of this state and pledges its official support to the speedy accomplishment of this reform by enactment by the California Legislature.

The following resolution was introduced by P. K. Brown and there being no objection was referred to the reference committee:

Whereas, There exists among the ground squirrels in several counties in this state the infection of bubonic plague; and

Whereas, The presence of this disease is a menace to the health not only of those who live in the squirrel-infested regions, but also a menace to the health of our cities on account of the danger of the transmission of plague from the ground squirrels to the rats and thence to persons; and

Whereas, Measures are being taken by the U. S. Public Health and Marine Hospital Service in conjunction with the State Board of Health of California to eradicate this infection among the ground squirrels; be it

Resolved, That the Medical Society of the State of California views with concern the presence of this disease among the rodents and gives its full approval of the measures being taken to exterminate the ground squirrels, and urges that this work be carried forward as rapidly as possible in order that the infection may be banished from the state in the shortest possible time; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the Secretary of the Treasury, to the Surgeon-General of the U. S. Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, to the Secretary of the California State Board of Health, and to the Senators and Members of Congress from the State of California.

R. L. Porter introduced a resolution expressing the thanks of the San Francisco delegation for the services of the Secretary and Editor. Seconded by R. Russ and carried.

There being no further new business, the minutes were read and approved. The House then adjourned to meet at 8:30 p. m., on April 20th.

SECOND SESSION, APRIL 20, 1910, 8:30 P. M.

Roll call showed 68 Delegates and 8 Councillors present.

The President announced the first order of business, under the By-Laws, to be the choosing of the place for the next session. Letters were presented from the Hotel Del Monte and the Hotel Potter, inviting the Society to meet in their respective hotels in 1911.

Place of Meeting. T. A. Stoddard nominated Santa Barbara as the place of meeting and W. J. G. Dawson nominated Santa Rosa. E. W. Twitchell and S. E. Simmons were appointed tellers, and a ballot resulted in the following vote: Santa Barbara 59, Santa Rosa 12, one blank. The President announced that Santa Barbara had been chosen as the place for the next annual meeting.

Howard Morrow rose and stated that he, as

chairman of the San Francisco delegation, wished to speak upon a question of personal privilege. He stated that a letter had been generally circulated among the members of the House of Delegates, which letter apparently expressed the views of the San Francisco delegation and involved the making of promises relating to presidential politics for a year in advance. He wished to repudiate the letter and the import of its contents as coming officially from the delegation or being inspired by it or by anything more than the views of a single individual.

Langley Porter rose and requested to be heard on a question of personal privilege. He stated that he was the President of the San Francisco County Medical Society, and that the letter already referred to by Dr. Morrow apparently indicated that the statements contained therein were those of the Board of Directors of the San Francisco County Medical Society; this he wished to repudiate absolutely and to state that the opinions and undertakings contained in the letter were those of a single individual and did not represent any official action of the Directors.

President. Nominations were called for the office of President for the ensuing year. Jno. C. King, of Banning, was nominated by A. S. Lobingier, of Los Angeles. T. W. Huntington, of San Francisco, was nominated by E. W. Twitchell, of Sacramento. A. W. Hoisholt and H. G. Brainard were appointed tellers. The ballot disclosed 41 for King, 34 for Huntington and one blank. The President announced the ballot and Howard Morrow then moved that the election of Dr. King be made unanimous. The motion was seconded, put and carried, and Dr. Jno. C. King unanimously elected.

First Vice-President. Dudley Tait nominated George H. Evans of San Francisco; the President ruled the nomination out of order. R. L. Porter nominated A. B. Grosse of San Francisco. There being no other nominations, the Secretary was instructed to cast the ballot of the House for A. B. Grosse, which was done and the election announced.

Second Vice-President. R. L. Porter nominated J. Henry Barbat of San Francisco. There being no further nominations, the Secretary was instructed to cast the ballot of the House for J. Henry Barbat, which was done and the election announced.

Secretary. W. LeM. Wills nominated Philip M. Jones of San Francisco, and there being no other nominations, on motion the President was instructed to cast the ballot of the House for Philip M. Jones, which was done and the ballot announced.

Council; 2nd District. T. A. Stoddard nominated George H. Kress, of Los Angeles, to succeed himself. There being no other nominations, the Secretary was instructed to cast the ballot of the House for George H. Kress, which was done and the election announced.

Council; 6th District. R. F. Rooney nominated C. G. Kenyon, of San Francisco, to succeed himself, and there being no other nominations, the Secretary was instructed to cast the ballot of the House for C. G. Kenyon, which was done and the election announced.

Council; 8th District. H. Bert. Ellis nominated James H. Parkinson, of Sacramento, and there being no other nominations, the Secretary was instructed to cast the ballot of the House for James H. Parkinson, which was done and the election announced.

Council; At Large. C. D. Lockwood nominated F. M. Pottenger, of Los Angeles, to succeed himself, and there being no other nominations, the Secretary was instructed to cast the ballot of the House for F. M. Pottenger, which was done and the election announced.

Committee on Scientific Work. The following were nominated and there being no other nominations they were declared elected in the regular manner: A. S. Lobingier, J. L. Asay, C. A. Dukes and Wm. Ophuls.

Committee on Public Policy and Legislation. The following were nominated and there being no other nominations they were declared elected in the regular manner: O. D. Hamlin, W. LeM. Wills and J. W. James.

Committee on Arrangements. The following were nominated and there being no other nominations were declared elected in the regular manner: T. A. Stoddard, Rexwald Brown and W. H. Flint.

Committee on Public Health. The following were nominated and there being no other nominations were declared elected in the regular manner: F. C. E. Mattison, S. Black, W. F. Snow, G. L. Eaton and G. H. Kress.

Delegate to the A. M. A. J. L. Milton, of Oakland, was elected for two years, H. C. Moffitt alternate.

Reference Committee Report. The Committee reported through its chairman, H. Bert. Ellis, who first read the report in full and then section by section. The President announced that after the reading of each section all matters connected with that topic would be open for discussion and that if there was no objection to any section, he would declare it the unanimous vote of the House that it be adopted.

1. We commend the action of the President in visiting the different sections of the state to stimulate greater activity in the various County Societies. (Carried.)

2. We recommend, in view of past experience, that no effort be made to amend the present medical law, and we further recommend that great care be exercised in the selection and election of the Legislative Committee. (Carried.)

3. We commend and endorse the action of the Council in establishing Medical Defense in alleged malpractice suits, and recommend that an assessment of one dollar (\$1.00) per year for three years be levied upon each member and that the first assessment be paid before July 1st, 1910, in order to secure protection. (Carried.)

4. We heartily endorse the action of the Council in the matter of the Kaplan-Register-Journal matter. (Carried.)

5. In regard to that portion of the Council's report referring to contract practice, dollar-a-month

organizations, etc., we recommend that a special committee of five be appointed by the President to make a careful investigation of the matter and make a detailed report on the same at the next annual meeting of the Society, with recommendations as to action; this committee to work with and through the different County Societies. (Carried.)

6. We recommend the adoption of the suggestion of the Council that the annual assessment and subscription price of the JOURNAL be left to the Council with the proviso that the amount shall not be in excess of three dollars (\$3.00) per member, exclusive of the assessment for Medical Defense; and also that the Council be authorized to make such changes as may be required by the Postoffice. (Carried.)

7. We recommend that the reports of the Secretary and Editor be adopted and that we express our appreciation of his efforts to bring the Society and the JOURNAL to their present financial condition and efficiency. (Carried.)

8. We recommend the adoption of the resolutions on expert testimony. (Carried.)

9. We recommend the adoption of the resolution on Bubonic Plague conditions. (Carried.)

10. We recommend the adoption of the amendment of Article VI, Section 5, changing "shall" to "may." (Carried.)

11. We recommend the adoption of the amendment to Article VI, Section 2. (Carried.)

12. We recommend the endorsement of the A. M. A. resolution in reference to the National Food and Drugs Act. (Carried.)

13. We endorse the Owen's bill for the establishment of a Department of Public Health and recommend that our Senators be so informed by the Secretary. (Carried.)

(Signed) H. BERT. ELLIS,
STANLEY STILLMAN,
W. J. G. DAWSON.

Each of the foregoing sections, with the attached recommendations, was adopted as presented, and then the report and recommendations were unanimously adopted as a whole.

The following resolution was presented by A. W. Hoisholt and on motion adopted:

Resolved, That the Medical Society of the State of California authorize its committee on legislation to consult with the legislative committee of the Bar Association of the State of California and the Juvenile Court Association, requesting them to co-operate in the drawing of a bill or bills to be presented to the next Legislature authorizing Superior Judges to commit drug habitues and inebriates in a similar manner to the method used in committing, confining and treating the insane.

And we further recommend that the state provide a suitable hospital or hospitals for the expert care and treatment of these patients so that they may be given the best chance for cure, thus preventing the crimes and the degeneracy in their offspring which result from the present inefficient handling of such cases.

The following was presented by T. C. Edwards, and on motion adopted:

Whereas, There are many of the citizens of our state who innocently and ignorantly become habituated to the use of alcohol; therefore be it

Resolved, By the Medical Society of the State of California, that we believe that the daily use of alcoholic beverages is injurious to the physical well-being of those who use it.

A communication from L. S. Mace, referring to the appointment of a committee of those interested in certified milk, was read and referred to the Council with power to act.

C. G. Kenyon moved that the American Medical Association be cordially invited to hold its next session in Los Angeles. Seconded and carried.

C. D. Lockwood moved the thanks of the Society be extended to the citizens of Sacramento for their courtesy and the very great attention to the entertainment of our members, and that the thanks of the Society be extended to the Sacramento Society for Medical Improvement. Seconded and carried.

The minutes of the second session were read and approved.

There being no further business, the House of Delegates adjourned sine die.

PHILIP MILLS JONES,
Secretary.

REPORT OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS.

By J. HENRY BARBAT, M. D., San Francisco.

The Board convened on May 21, 1909, and elected the following officers: Drs. Geo. F. Reinhardt, President; D. L. Tasker, Vice-President; Chas. L. Tisdale, Secretary, and Chas. Clark, Treasurer.

The first examination took place Aug. 3rd, 1909; 141 applicants took the examination, of which 92 passed and 49 failed; 83 were graduates from California colleges, 58 passing and 25 failing.

The second examination took place Dec. 7th, 1909; 97 applicants took the examination, of which 66 passed and 31 failed; 38 were graduates from California colleges; 25 passed and 13 failed.

The third examination took place April 5th, 1910; 90 applicants took the examination; the reports are not yet in as to the number that passed or failed.

Comparing the figures of the present Board with the Board of last year, we find that they are practically the same in regard to the percentage of those passing, the proportion being about 67 per cent, for instance:

In April, 1909, 71 applicants took the examination, of which 48 passed; 23 failed.

In August, 1909, 141 applicants took the examination, of which 92 passed; 49 failed.

In December, 1909, 97 applicants took the examination, of which 66 passed; 31 failed.

April, 1909, 68 per cent passed.

August, 1909, 65 per cent passed.

December, 1909, 68 per cent passed.

Average for the year, 67 per cent.